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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Juergen Klenk et al.

Serial No. 09/____,____

Group Art Unit (unassigned)

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Examiner (unassigned)

For SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR COMPUTER
BASED SEARCHING FOR RELEVANT TEXTS

Box New Utility Patent Application
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the first examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below. A clean copy of the amended claims is attached.

1 Claim 7 (Amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1,
2 wherein a parser is employed, to create the graph in step b).

1 Claim 8 (Amended). The method of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 6], wherein a semantic
2 network generator is employed to create the graph (30) in step b).

1 Claim 9 (Amended). The method of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 3], wherein one graph
2 is generated for each sentence in the text and wherein the characterizing strength (C) is
3 calculated for each sentence by performing the steps b) through e).

1 Claim 11 (Amended). The method of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 3], wherein the graph
2 is evolved in step c) by replacing auxiliary verbs with main verbs.

1 Claim 13 (Amended). The method of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 3], wherein the graph
2 is evolved in step c) by leaving out verbs.

1 Claim 14 (Amended). The method of [any one of claims] claim 1 [to 3], wherein the
2 subject of the sentence is identified and placed centrally in the graph to produce a tree-like
3 graph structure in which the subject is at the root, prior to carrying out step d).

1 Claim 16 (Amended). The method of claim 2 [or 15], wherein the characterizing strength
2 (C) of the text is an average calculated by

- 3 • adding the characterizing strengths (C) of all sentences of the respective text, and
- 4 • then dividing the result of the previous step by the number of sentences.

1 Claim 22 (Amended). An information retrieval system comprising a system as claimed in
2 [any of claims] claim 17 [to 21].

1 Claim 23 (Amended). A server computer system comprising a system as claimed in [any of
2 claims] claim 17 [to 21].

1 Claim 24 (Amended). A client computer system comprising a system as claimed in [any of
2 claims] claim 17 [to 21].

REMARKS

The application has been amended to make multiply dependent claims dependent on a single preceding claim. Please calculate the filing fee based on this preliminary amendment.

An examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Lamont Whitham

Reg. No. 22,424



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Clean Copy of Amended Claims

1 Claim 7 (Amended). The method according to claim 1, wherein a parser is employed, to
2 create the graph in step b).

1 Claim 8 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein a semantic network generator is
2 employed to create the graph (30) in step b).

1 Claim 9 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein one graph is generated for each
2 sentence in the text and wherein the characterizing strength (C) is calculated for each
3 sentence by performing the steps b) through e).

1 Claim 11 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the graph is evolved in step c) by
2 replacing auxiliary verbs with main verbs.

1 Claim 13 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the graph is evolved in step c) by
2 leaving out verbs.

1 Claim 14 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the subject of the sentence is
2 identified and placed centrally in the graph to produce a tree-like graph structure in which
3 the subject is at the root, prior to carrying out step d).

1 Claim 16 (Amended). The method of claim 2, wherein the characterizing strength (C) of
2 the text is an average calculated by
3 • adding the characterizing strengths (C) of all sentences of the respective text, and
4 • then dividing the result of the previous step by the number of sentences.

1 Claim 22 (Amended). An information retrieval system comprising a system as claimed in

2 claim 17.

1 Claim 23 (Amended). A server computer system comprising a system as claimed in claim
2 17.

1 Claim 24 (Amended). A client computer system comprising a system as claimed in claim
2 17.

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